

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
PA-02 SS-15 ICA-20 /105 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6248
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
ALL EC CAPITALS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 08137

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EC, PO, ECIN
SUBJ: PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS THE EC
COMMISSION APRIL 25

1. PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER SA MACHADO MADE ONE DAY VISIT TO BRUSSELS APRIL 25, DURING WHICH HE MET WITH EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS, COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT NATALI, BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS, BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET AND NATO SYG LUNS. AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS MEETINGS WITH JENKINS AND NATALI, WHICH CONSISTED OF A TOUR D'HORIZON RELATING TO PORTUGAL'S ACCESSION TO THE COMMUNITY AND FOCUSSED ON THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE COMMISSION'S RECENTLY PUBLISHED "FRESCO" ON ENLARGEMENT (SEE SEPTTEL), MACHADO MET BRIEFLY WITH THE PRESS.

2. DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE MACHADO, NOTING THAT HIS VISIT IS BASED ON POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, SAID THAT HIS MEETINGS WITH JENKINS, NATALI AND OTHER COMMISSION OFFICIALS COVERED THE RANGE OF PROBLEMS RELATING TO
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PORTUGAL'S ENTRY INTO THE COMMUNITY. HE SAID THAT THE DISCUSSIONS, WHICH WERE OPEN AND FRANK, CENTERED ON THOSE COMMON ACTIONS NEEDED TO BE UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO PORTUGAL'S ACCESSION. HE OBSERVED THAT THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE IDEA THAT SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS IN SPECIFIC SECTORS WOULD REQUIRE A TRANSFER OF RESOURCES FROM THE COMMUNITY TO PORTUGAL TO FACILITATE PORTUGAL'S FULL

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION INTO THE EC. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE PORTUGAL ATTACHES TO MAINTAINING THE POLITICAL IMPETUS OF ITS DECISION TO ENTER THE COMMUNITY AND TO AVOIDING UNDUE DELAY IN THE OPENING OF FORMAL ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS.

3. IN THE SUBSEQUENT QUESTIONING, MACHADO EXPRESSED GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE COMMISSION'S "FRESCO" ON ENLARGEMENT AND OPINED THAT THE TEN-YEAR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD SUGGESTED IN THE FRESCO WOULD BE SUFFICIENT FOR PORTUGAL TO BECOME FULLY INTEGRATED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

4. IN A STATEMENT MADE DURING A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY NATALI, MACHADO EMPHASIZED THAT THE "SAFEGUARDING OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES CONSTITUTES ONE OF PORTUGAL'S FUNDAMENTAL PRE-OCCUPATIONS." THE EUROPEAN OPTION, HE CONTINUED, IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF PORTUGAL'S FOREIGN POLICY. HINTON

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